

The invention as defined by claim 1 also requires a casing that will removably mount two or more of the printhead modules in a linearly aligned relationship. The Examiner has equated the printhead modules of the present invention with the assemblies 10 of '908, and has further argued that the chassis 14 reads onto the casing of claim 1. As shown in Figure 15 of '908, the element 14 supports a single module/assembly 10 only. The second module/assembly is supported on its own element 14.

Furthermore there is no fluid connection provided between to the ends of the respective moldings 32 shown in Figure 15. Each module/assembly 10 is independently connected to the ink supply.

Accordingly, '908 does not teach fundamental elements of amended claim 1 or dependent claim 5.

35 U.S.C. §103 – Claim 2

Claim 2 stands rejected as obvious in light of US 6,439,908 to Silverbrook in view of US 5,658,158 to Milan.

As discussed above, '908 fails to teach or suggest several elements defined in claim 1. The disclosure in Milan also fails to teach or suggest these elements. As claim 2 incorporates these elements by virtue of its indirect dependence from claim 1, it is clear that the citations fail to support a rejection on the basis of §103.

35 U.S.C. §103 – Claim 3 and 4

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 6,439,908 to Silverbrook in view of US 5,658,158 to Milan and US 6,180,002 to Higgins.

As discussed above, '908 and Milan fail to teach or suggest several elements defined in claim 2. The disclosure in Higgins also fails to teach or suggest these elements. As claims 3 and 4 incorporate these elements by virtue of its indirect dependence from claim 2, it is clear that the citations fail to support a rejection on the basis of §103.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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